

## HOW ABOUT WEST POINT?



CHARLES W. ELIOT, president emeritus of Harvard university, made an address not long ago before the Harvard Teachers' association, in which he severely criticized the United States Military Academy at West Point as an educational institution.

Now, West Point is an institution of supreme national importance. If Dr. Eliot's criticisms can be sustained, it is the manifest duty of congress and the secretary of war to bring about all changes necessary to fit the institution to its high public purpose.

Representative Fred A. Britten of Illinois introduced a resolution requesting that certain information be furnished the house by the war department. Representative Julius Kahn of California, chairman of the committee on military affairs, wrote to Secretary of War Newton D. Baker concerning this resolution. Secretary Baker took this opportunity to write Representative Kahn a long communication, which is in purpose and effect a formal defense of West Point, and an answer to Dr. Eliot's criticisms. In view of the supreme importance of West Point as an American institution, a summary of Secretary Baker's defense is well worth printing.

Dr. Eliot's criticisms are as follows:

- "No American school or college intended for youths between 18 and 20 years of age should accept such ill-prepared material as West Point accepts."
- "No school or college should have a completely prescribed curriculum."
- "No school or college should have its teaching done almost exclusively by recent graduates of the same school or college who are not teachers and who serve short terms."
- "The graduates of West Point during the world war, both in the field and in business offices, did not escape, with few exceptions, from the methods which they had been taught and drilled in during peace. The methods of fighting were, in the main, new and the methods of supply and account, ought to have been new. The regular army officers of passing the buck were very mischievous all through the actual fighting and remain a serious impediment to the efficiency of the war department to this day."

In answering criticism No. 1, Secretary Baker sets forth the methods of admission to West Point by congressional and presidential appointment, competitive examinations, entrance examinations, etc. He then says, in part:

"From 1883 to 1915 the total number of candidates who have presented themselves for admission to West Point has been 17,919. Of these 8,352 have been admitted. Of the 8,352 admitted, 4,220 were rejected by the academic board; 2,740 failed to report; 821 were rejected by the medical board; 673 were rejected by the joint action of the academic board and the medical board; 608 passed, for whom no vacancies existed; 198 failed to complete the examinations; 188 declined appointments after completion of the examination, and 32 appointments were canceled."

"It thus appears that the process of selection is countrywide; that the requirements, from a purely academic standpoint, are adequately high, and that the standards are rigidly enforced."

"Taking American secondary education as it is, for rich and poor, in the city and in the country, east and west, I am persuaded that no college drawing its students from a wide geographical area compares with West Point in the quality of the material which it receives, and if more uniform excellence could be obtained by sectional or class selection, surely the exchange would be a had one for the national constituency which the academy has always had."

As to criticism No. 2, Secretary Baker says he does not attach any value to any opinion he might express as to the controversy between the prescribed curriculum and the free elective system of collegiate education. But, he says, it cannot be conceded that West Point has a fixed, inflexible and unchanging curriculum. He mentions the appointment of a board of investigation in 1917, and says it is only one in a continuing series of investigations with the view of adapting the instruction to the demands which

the world war has shown could be made upon military men. He then says, in part:

"After all, West Point is a special school, as is the Naval Academy at Annapolis, as is any school of mines, or of chemistry, or of languages. This does not justify the turning out of soldiers, or mining engineers, or chemists, who know nothing else; but it does justify a course of instruction which emphasizes the specialty, while it produces an educated man. The purpose of West Point, therefore, is not to act as a glorified drill sergeant, but to lay a foundation upon which a career of growth in military knowledge can be based, and to accompany it with two indispensable additions; first, such a general training as educated men find necessary for intelligent intercourse with one another, and second, the inculcation of a set of virtues admirable always, but indispensable in the soldier. Men may be ineffectual, or even untruthful, in ordinary matters, and suffer as a consequence only the disesteem of their associates, or the inconveniences of unfavorable litigation; but the ineffectual or untruthful soldier trifles with the lives of his fellow men, and the honor of his government, and it is, therefore, no matter of idle pride, but rather of stern disciplinary necessity that makes West Point require of her students a character for trustworthiness which knows no evasions."

"I ought to point out that West Point is but the beginning of education in the army. In each of the services there are continuation schools of growing breadth and usefulness, and the plan toward which army education is tending will move more and more toward the fundamentals, both of education and character, at West Point, and look more and more to the special schools for the technical, scientific completion."

"A test may be applied to with confidence. During the first hundred years (1802-1902) of its existence, 2,371 graduates of West Point left the army to go into civil life. The occupations of these graduates are shown in the following table: President of the United States, 1; presidential candidates, 3; vice-presidential candidates, 2; members of the cabinet of the United States, 4; ambassadors, 1; ministers of the United States to foreign countries, 14; charge d'affaires of the United States to foreign countries, 12; United States consul generals and consuls, 12; members of congress, 24; United States civil officers of various kinds, 171; presidential electors, 8; governors of states and territories, 10; bishops, 1; lieutenant governors, 2; judges, 14; members of state legislatures, 77; presiding officers of state senates and houses of representatives, 8; members of conventions for the formation of state constitutions, 19; state officers of various grades, 61; adjutants, inspectors and quartermaster generals, and chief engineers of states and territories, 28; officers of state militia, 158; mayors of cities, 17; city officers, 57; presidents of universities, colleges, etc., 46; principals of academies and schools, 32; regents and chancellors of educational institutions, 24; professors and teachers, 126; superintendents of coast survey, 1; surveyors general of states and territories, 11; chief engineers of states, 14; presidents of railroads and other corporations, 87; chief engineers of railroads and other public works, 63; superintendents of railroads and other public works, 62; treasurers and receivers of railroads and other corporations, 24; civil engineers, 228; electrical engineers, 51; attorneys and counselors at law, 200; superior general of clerical order, 1; clergymen, 20; physicians, 14; merchants, 122; manufacturers, 77; artists, 3; architects, 7; farmers and planters, 230; bankers, 18; bank presidents, 8; bank officers, 29; editors, 30; authors, 170."

"Not all of the foregoing occupations are significant of intellectual supremacy or necessarily superior training, but the list is one which could not have been made by a college with an inadequate or archaic system of education. These men have stepped out of West Point into civil life and qualified in large numbers for positions from the very highest within the gift of the people, in all walks of life; a list quite too large and imposing to represent the triumph of talent over obstruction."

Discussing criticism No. 3, Secretary Baker says that the special character of the education which West Point must give limits the field of selection of its teachers. He defends the practice

of teaching by recent graduates. He then points out that there is more permanency in the academic staff than is commonly supposed. Of the 12 heads of departments 7 are permanent and 5 are detailed for periods of 4 years.

Secretary Baker says, in part, concerning criticism No. 4:

"Nothing short of omniscience can analyze the intricate, multiplied and scattered activities of the war department during the recent war. The industry, the mastery of the materials, the circumstances surrounding these activities and apportion either the credit for success or the blame for mistake as between the persons engaged in those activities. The handful of West Point graduates, the larger handful of Regular Army officers drawn from civil life, reserve officers, officers of the National Guard, and the vast larger body of officers hastily instructed in officers' training camps altogether comprised approximately 205,000 men, of whom the West Point graduates numbered 3,081. In the performance of their work these officers were aided by an immense body of civilians—engineers, industrial, commercial, industrial and all other kinds of experts worked side by side. It is my settled conviction that the commercial and industrial organization of America during the war was a colossal success; but whether it was or not, the result was not an outcome of the system of education at West Point. The thing was done by the nation and all the varied processes by which our citizens are trained contributed."

He explains why federal statutes and government regulations produce red-tape; he admits that the system may be slow at times, but holds that conservations of public safety or get an authorized answer. He says the fighting was not new, but old. Then he says:

"The comment seems to imply a belief, on President Eliot's part, that graduates of West Point have not shown up well in the military history of the United States. It is incredible that he could really entertain this belief. In every since the academy was established, its graduates have been conspicuous, alike for heroism and success. The following list is made up of names which illustrate American history. They are graduates of the Military Academy, and they are men whose memory we teach our children to revere:

"Indian wars: Custer, Crooke, Wright, Mackenzie, Cooke, A. S. Johnston, Jefferson Davis, Abernethy, Casey, McCall, Canby, Balins. "Mexican war: Swift, Sherman, Totten, Bragg, R. E. Lee, McClellan, Beauregard, Huger, Reno, Grant, Jefferson Davis, Early. Civil war: General officers in Union Army, 294; in Confederate Army, 151; Grant, Sherman, Sheridan, Schofield, Buell, Burnside, Gilmore, Halleck, Hancock, Heintzelman, Hooker, Howard, Humphreys, Kilpatrick, Lyon, Meade, Merritt, Mitchell, McDowell, Ord, Pope, Porter, Reynolds, Rosecrans, Slocum, Thomas, Warren, Wright, Beauregard, Bragg, Cooper, Hood, A. S. Johnston, J. E. Johnston, R. E. Lee, Kirby Smith, Anderson, Buckner, Early, Ewell, Hardee, P. H. Hill, D. H. Hill, Holmes, Jackson, S. D. Lee, Longstreet, Pemberton, Polk, A. R. Stewart, Wheeler, Fitz Lee, Lovell, Pickett, J. E. B. Stuart, Van Dorn. "Spanish war: Otis, King, Fitz Lee, Wheeler, Bell, Pershing, Lawton, Barry. "Explorers, builders of railroads, canals, light-houses, etc.: Swift, Totten, McClellan, Poe, Abbott, Warren, Humphreys, Talcott, Comstock, Bache, Wheeler, Wright, Whittier, Sidel, Porter, Willson, Greene, Du Pont, Ludlow, Meigs, Griffin, Holden, Black, Goethals, Sbert, Gaillard, Casby, Hodges. "Public life: Grant, Polk, McClellan, Hancock, Porter, Buckner, Lee, Longstreet, Du Pont, Briggs, Liggitt, Goethals, Sumner, Jervay, Scott, Graves, Bidle, McAndrew, Black, Richardson Connor, et al."

Society Sports. Stella—is she a social climber? Bella—Yes, indeed, she goes in for uplift, cup lift and pup lift.

Very Tender Age. Mrs. Bacon—is this salad young? Bridget—Yes, ma'am; so young that I had to wash and dress it.

Details Wanted. "Ain't it strange the way Cassidy beats his wife?" "O! dunno. How does he do it?"

## IN LATE SMOCKS

Popular Midsummer Garment Made of White French Crepe.

Substitute for Sweater and Is Distinctly for Country; Sport Hats Are Available.

Garden smocks for midsummer are of white French crepe, embroidered in a combination of many colors, such as green, rose, blue and yellow. These smocks, being designed especially for hot weather wear in the country, are cut with a square neck, somewhat low, and short sleeves. Very often the bottom is trimmed with fringed ribbon, or a color to blend with the embroidery. For those who desire even more elaboration they may be had with rows of narrow bright colored ribbon, one above the other, outlining the neck and sleeves. Smocks are made for them by joining rows of ribbons.

All this sounds very gay, but, since they are distinctly for the country and intended to take the place of the sweater, it is almost impossible to make them too bright. Such blouses are much more becoming to most figures than the ordinary shirtwaist.

Now is an excellent time to buy sport hats. Shapes in these are very much the same year after year, their interest lying chiefly in the materials and trimmings. Early in the season it is difficult to find good-looking sport hats. Now there are any number of pretty ones, so it is a good plan to buy with an eye to what will be useful not only now but for starting the next season.

It is difficult to get hats that match or harmonize with sweaters or smocks. There are garden or sport hats of braided straw that come in every sweater shade. These are so soft that they may be crushed into almost any shape. Consequently, they are easily packed in a traveling bag.

### NEW FALL BLOUSE OF SATIN



This is one of the new fall blouses in satin striped indestructible voile where the neckline, little more than a frill, is outlined all around in a plaited frilling of the sheer silk.

### Ornamentation of Bygone Days Returns and Rich Pieces are Brought Into Service.

If the styles of this year do not inspire a woman to go down into her trunk and look up the lace box of other days, then she is never likely to get inspiration again and she may as well pass the lace on to someone else, suggests a fashion writer.

Have you a moved that box of laces and ribbons, and if you have, do not forget to look it over. It is a treasure trove of lace and ribbon which you may wish that it really could go to a rummage sale!

But, of course, this summer you are pleased with yourself for having had the perseverance to save all of them. In this lace and ribbon box, there is a scrap of lace. It doesn't matter particularly what the width or whether it is black or white or even if it has been dyed. And one is not confined to any special material or to any line or set method of using it.

Not for years has one been able to draw forth black or white lace flouncing. Collars and cuffs have been about all the use offered for any kind of lace. Perhaps the fact that it is a ruffie year provides the place for lace fluffles.

This year deep lace flouncing is used in all kinds of ways. One is fortunate to have a Chantilly flounce in either white or black and the imitations are used with exactly as pleasing effect.

New Frocks in Course of Construction Should Conform to the Autumn Styles.

Any frocks that are being made up now should conform to fall style specifications, unless, of course, distinctly summer fabrics are being used. Usually the summer wardrobe is almost completely by this time and anything added is inspired by a bargain sale or simply a "filler-in" for some special occasion.

Satin and tulle are combined in innumerable frocks and for very early fall street frocks entirely of satin or of tulle will be approved.

As one of the extremely smart style features of this autumn, it is said, there will be a decided practical dress gracefully draped and mostly in black, navy and brown.

An Attractive Costume. A pumpkin colored muslin is a charming and cool frock for summer wear. It has flowers embroidered in blue on the neck, sleeves and skirt. A broad-brimmed brown straw hat is worn with this, which is trimmed with pumpkin colored muslin flowers.

Platinum Gray Cloth. A late model for an evening wrap is of platinum gray cloth built in a three-tier effect with set-in sleeves.

## STATE SIFTINGS

Angora wool flowers make an attractive trimming for these.

To make a sport costume very smart the colors of the dress must be carried out in the hat. For instance, a blue and beige clad skirt, topped by a lightweight navy blue sweater, is charming when worn with a hat of dark blue tulle trimmed with tan worsted. Such a hat may have a large bow, with a band formed by braiding several strands of the beige worsted placed around the extreme edge and a smaller band finished with tassels encircling the crown. Variations of this may be made by introducing different embroidery stitches.

The same model in soft, bright colored straw, when trimmed with white yarn, is charming with a sweater of the same shade.

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The \$150,000 waterworks bond is due carried at Niles primary.

School tax proposals were defeated in Youngstown by sweeping majorities.

Frank S. March, New York, was appointed recreational director in Middletown.

Ashtabula council allowed gas rate to be increased from 36 cents to \$1 per 1,000 feet.

Sandusky city commission granted a care fare increase of 1 cent within the city limit.

Miss Elsie M. Samburn, 26, committed suicide at Ravenna by swallowing poison.

Tiffin health officials will attempt to revive interest in the tri-county tuberculosis hospital.

Ohio Electric trainmen have been granted an increase of wages of about 10 cents an hour.

A contract for 55 houses was let by the Niles housing corporation, which plans to construct 500 homes.

Karl T. Whinnery, former principal of Salem high school, is to be the principal of South high in Youngstown.

D. M. Brown, Youngstown prohibition officer, sold \$10,000 worth of confiscated liquor to druggists, hospitals and physicians.

Anthony Zaccaro, 13, Fairport, was electrocuted when he came in contact with a live wire while at play around a mine tippie.

When the large steel storage tank at the Paragon Refining company's plant at Toledo exploded, 5,500 barrels of crude oil were destroyed.

Anthony Zaccaro, 13, Fairport, was electrocuted when he climbed to a roof on a "boy's dare" and accidentally touched a high tension wire.

Mahoning county, Ohio including the city of Youngstown, has a population of 186,310, an increase of 70,159 over 1910, according to census reports.

Captain D. Lindley Sears of Bucyrus resigned the commission under which he is serving on the Mexican border and will resume law practice at Bucyrus.

James Watkins, Lancaster, picked up a horseshoe while picking blackberries and a few minutes later used it to kill a copperhead snake coiled to strike at him.

A decline of \$1,320,899 was experienced in a month in the pay rolls of industry in Mahoning county. General shutdowns in July are blamed for the decrease.

John Lewis, died Dr. C. B. Byer at Lorain for \$25,000 alleged damages, charging that X-ray beams received in removing a wart from his leg caused blood poisoning, which incapacitated him for 18 weeks.

Ohio fair prize commission will not tolerate any present increase in the price of food commodities, milk or otherwise, at this time. This was announced by the secretary of the commission.

Howard Jordan, 49, Fayetteville, was killed, and Homer Morgan, 46, Marathon, fatally injured, when a motor truck on which they were riding collided with a traction car at Madisonville.

Uncle Sam's treasury will be enriched by almost \$125,000, says prohibition agents estimate, by the auction sale of 55 barrels and 1,500 cases of bonded whiskey and 60 automobiles seized at Youngstown by agents in the last six months.

As the alleged result of a grudge of years' standing, said to have arisen over a debt, Harry Belcher, 30, shot and instantly killed General Chatfield, proprietor of a store at Sheridan, Lawrence county.

Joseph Embury of Newark was killed and his brother, F. E. Embury of Dresden, and Thomas Ramsey of Newark were so badly injured that they may die, when a train struck their automobile at a grade crossing at Dresden.

George Francis Burba, 55, chief editorial writer of the Columbus Dispatch and former secretary to Governor James M. Cox, died suddenly from heart trouble at his home in Columbus. He was one of the best known newspaper men in Ohio.

Donald Ensminger, 8, and Robert, 16, brothers, were instantly killed and four other members of the family of David H. Ensminger of Butler, Pa., were injured when their automobile was struck by an Erie passenger train, north of Youngstown.

Mrs. John Nicholas died from injuries received while working as an engineer in a pumping station at Vermillion. Her husband, who was injured, could not procure a substitute, and Mrs. Nicholas volunteered to work in his stead. Her hair had become entangled in the machinery.

Former Governor Frank B. Willis, Republican candidate for United States senator, has a plurality of upward of 50,000 over Walter F. Brown of Toledo, his nearest competitor for the nomination. Returns indicate that W. A. Julian, Cincinnati shoe manufacturer, will have a plurality of 2,300 over Municipal Judge A. F. O'Neil for the Democratic nomination for United States senator.

Joseph Green, Zanesville, was probably fatally injured while operating a railroad crane in Lancaster.

Miners of Hocking county have added primary election day to their list of holidays.

Ohio's third presidential candidate, Dr. Aaron S. Watkins, was notified at Germantown of his nomination by the Prohibition party.

Homer Heisley, 4, Cleveland, was struck by a truck in front of his home and killed.

Ravenna's mayor vetoed the 20 per cent increase ordinance for heat and light rates.

At Alliance, federal officers arrested eight men on charges of selling whisky and seized about \$12,000 worth of whisky and wine.

A Clinton county homecoming celebration at Wilmington in commemoration of the 110th anniversary of the founding of the county.

All four financial measures for the relief of Columbus schools and the city itself were passed by large majorities at the recent primaries.

Ohio State Progressive Dentists' association closed its annual convention at Cedar Point. Dr. Victor Voris of Dayton was elected president.

Mrs. John Wagner, 55, was killed when she jumped from the automobile which her husband was driving, after the steering gear broke and he lost control of the car while descending a hill, near Springfield.

Newly organized fair association at Norwalk announced there probably will be no Huron county fair this year.

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